



TROJAN NEWS

January 2019



ILEARN Testing - The Facts

This coming April all students in grades 3-5 will take the state-mandated ILEARN test. This replaces the ISTEP+ test we've used in Indiana for the last few decades. Basically, it's the same test. It covers the same Indiana State Standards. It uses a similar format. But the name has changed and a different testing company is running the show as per a legislative mandate.

It is a challenging test. Last year, in the state Indiana 2017-2018, only 51% of students passed both Math and Language Arts on ISTEP+. The reading passages are long and require stamina. The math questions are multistep and require significant critical thinking. The computer format (paper is no longer allowed) requires scrolling and patience, as students read passages, answer questions, and figure problems over multiple screens.

Maybe some of your kids have been talking about it at home. We've already let the kids see sample questions as a warm up. Teachers are intentionally teaching to the standards and preparing students as best they can. We want our students to do well. High scores reflect well on our students, our school, and our community. And our kids can do it with proper motivation and effort.

Here's what we need from you. Emphasise the importance of good effort at school, always, but especially these next three months. No amount of innate smarts can make up for a lack of trying. Ensure your kids do their homework, and talk to them about school. If it's important to you, their parent, it will be important to them. Send your kids to school ready to learn. Make sure they get lots of sleep, and have a good breakfast at home or at school so they can do their best as they prepare for the ILEARN test.

Special Points of interest:

Feb. 7- Progress Reports sent home

Feb. 8- Lafayette Symphony 5th grade

Feb. 11- PTC Mtg. 3:00

Feb. 15- Last day of Gym 'n' Swim

Feb. 15- Snow Make Up day/No School

Feb. 18- Snow Make Up Day/ No School

Upcoming events:

March 6 -Indiana Blood Center Blood Drive

March 11- PTC Mtg. 3:00

March 15- Report cards sent home

March 19- Spring Program 4th & 5th grade

March 25-29- Spring Break



From the Art Department

Do you enjoy looking at student artwork? Stop by the back entrance of the building to see each month's featured "Artist in the Spotlight."

Displayed during the month of January, you can see drawings and paintings by Kayla Schlatter. In December, we enjoyed the artwork of Sydney Mellon, who joined Kaleb Adams and Jaydin Payne in the honor of having their work displayed earlier this school year.

Though we have many talented artists among our students, the honor of being chosen "Artist in the Spotlight" is reserved only for those students who demonstrate a strong work ethic along with their creative talents while in Ms. Zeyen's class.

Student of the Month for
November/December

Boden Putt



News from Nurse Mellon

5th grade parents--- It's time to schedule and get your child ready for 6th grade! New State Immunization Requirements are:

1 Tdap(Tetanus & Pertussis)

1 MCV-4(Meningitis)

and **2 Hep. A**--Hep A takes **6 months to complete** from the 1st to 2nd dose, so please get it now so your child is ready for August to enter Middle School.

Call Mrs. Mellon if you have questions---

Kindergarten Round Up is Thursday April 4, 2019. If you have a child that will be 5 before August 1, 2019 they will need to come in for round up.

Swimming ends on Friday, February 15, 2019.



NHS Valentine's Day Fundraiser is attached

Head Start is taking student applications. To schedule an appointment call 219-204-0736